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NEWS

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UM GRADUATE DEAN APPOINTED TO ONE-YEAR NSF POSITION

MISSOULA--

Dr. Fred S. Honkala, dean of the University of Montana Graduate School and director of research for the UM Foundation, will begin a one-year leave of absence on August 1 to serve as director of the Advanced Science Education Program for the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., it has been reported by UM President Robert T. Pantzer.

Dr. Honkala's appointment was announced in Washington by Dr. Leland J. Haworth, director of NSF. "We believe Dr. Honkala is exceptionally well qualified to serve in this position and we are looking forward to his association with NSF," Dr. Haworth said.

NSF's Advanced Science Education Program operates on a budget of \$3 million and includes such activities as Special Projects in Graduate Education, Advanced Science Seminar Projects and Public Understanding of Science Projects.

"We will miss Dr. Honkala's services very much but recognize his work will be important to his professional future and of benefit to this institution," stated President Pantzer. "I am confident he will provide excellent service to NSF."

Dr. Honkala, who has completed 20 years of service at the University, said: "My family and I are looking forward to the year in Washington. We are, however, anticipating a return to Missoula and the University. I believe, under the fine leadership of President Pantzer, that this University is emerging as one of the outstanding universities of the land."

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A professor of geology, Dr. Honkala was chairman of the Department of Geology in the UM College of Arts and Sciences from 1956 until his appointment as graduate dean and director of research in 1964. He is also coordinator of the University's federal fellowship programs. Under his direction, geology became the first department on campus to award a Ph.D. degree and the first geology department in the country to receive National Defense Education Act fellowships. During his tenure in the graduate and research capacities, graduate enrollment has increased from 300 to more than 600, and various research and service funds have grown from \$250,000 to approximately \$5 million. Of special note has been a considerable expansion in UM health and medical science areas.

Dr. Honkala has served on several UM faculty committees including the budget and policy group. He is a past president of the Faculty Senate and former chairman of the Montana University System's Faculty Council.

During the past year he has been chairman of the Rocky Mountain Science Council and chairman of the science advisory committee to the Federation of Rocky Mountain States; by appointment of Gov. Babcock he has represented the state on several occasions. He also is presently a member of the advisory board for the Deer Lodge Research Unit. He serves on the General Technical Advisory Committee of the Office of Coal Research, Department of Interior, as well as on several other national and regional natural resource committees. Other activities have included four summers as a consultant to Shell Oil Co. in Montana, four summers on the staff of Indiana University and five summers as a researcher for the U.S. Geological Survey.

Dr. Honkala's personal research endeavors have focused primarily on the geology of phosphate and oil. He received his B.S. degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1940, his M.A. from University of Missouri in 1942 and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1949. He served from 1942-46 in the U.S. Army and saw overseas duty in the Southwest Pacific as an officer with the Corps of Engineers.

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He has published extensively and is affiliated with several professional organizations including the Geological Society of America, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, American Association for the Advancement of Science and National Council of University Research Administrators.

He has been active in the community in church, school and athletic organizations.

Mrs. Honkala is the former Rose Marie Fraher of Mobridge, S. Dak. The couple has two sons and a daughter. They will reside at 8401 Beech Tree Rd. in Bethesda, Md.

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